

## **Ukrainian Unification Church President to visit Maryland Church for 10 day Exchange Program**

Douglas Burton and Jim Boothby  
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### **New Hope's 2020 Partner Nation Ukraine**

#### **Family Federation President in the Ukraine visits Maryland for 10 days**

**Rev. Mykhailo Illin**, 41, will beginning visiting Maryland members Nov. 1st. as the first phase of an exchange sister church relationship. Rev. Ilin was invited to visit New Hope Family Church by the local leadership as a way of furthering the "20/20" mutual aid relationship between the Maryland Community and the Family Federation in Ukraine.

#### **True mother Initiates 2020 Partnership Project**

Since July 2013 New Hope members have heard about something called the "20/20 project" initiated by True Mother. The term refers to sister relationships between 20 communities in the United States and 20 Unificationist communities in other countries.

#### **Dr. Michael Balcomb explained in it all in 2013**

"Mother hopes for these partnerships to flourish and foster mutual cooperation and support." He added, "There are many possible projects: for example, in some cases it might be appropriate for missionaries from the USA city to travel to one or both of the other two countries; but in the alternative, leaders from other nations might be invited to the USA for training, education, evangelism, and more. Other areas of cooperation could include service projects, exchange of educational materials, financial support, and more."

#### **Ukraine Church - Seven active city centers, 300 adult members**

Ukrainian fund raisers are working continuously in three countries. The Blessed Central families have about 100 children, nearly all of whom are under 12 years old. Missionaries from the United States, including about 6 New Hope members, helped staff workshops in Ukraine from 1991. Few of the Ukrainians of that period remain in the church. Mykhailo joined in 2000. The church there recently inaugurated a beautiful new three-story church center. The Ukrainian Women's Federation for World Peace and the Universal Peace Federation also are very active and have their own websites.

#### **Rev. Ilin starts to meet the Maryland congregation on Sunday, Nov. 2nd**

After which there will be a get-acquainted session in the Founders' Room. It is expected that he will give the sermon at New Hope Nov. 9th and will be a featured presenter at a Ukraine briefing at the Melford Center at 7 p.m. on Sunday, which also marks the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The briefing, and Q&A, will include the Berlin Wall and recent developments in Ukraine's struggle to retain its territory from separatists.

#### **Beginning a long term "2020 Mutual Cooperation"**

The purpose of the visit is to gather facts on the ground about the culture and governance style of the

American church community and to hold talks with numerous Blessed Central Families to learn from our experiments in building community, raising children and reaching out to the larger world. It is hoped that the visit will result in reciprocal visits of Marylanders to Ukraine and long-distance friendships by internet and telephone. Doug Burton and Jim Boothby are assisting to arrange dinners on each evening with various Blessed Central Families.

### **Monuments and museums tour in Washington, D.C.**

Rev. Illin will tour the highlights of the nation's capital in company of former pastor Matt Goldberg on Monday, Nov. 3rd. The next day he will observe a polling station and take a tour of the Washington Times. In the evening, he will sit in on a meeting of the Maryland Church Council.

### **Wednesday briefing ~ How New Hope Academy was founded**

As well as a meeting with Joy Morrow, to understand how NHA was preserved as a successful private school; in the evening he will observe the church Boy Scout troop meeting and the charter discussion group at the Melford Learning Center. On Thursday he will tour buildings sacred to the Washington Church, including Upshur House and the Columbia Rd. Cathedral. On Friday, he will observe Youth Ministry's activity at Melford. On Saturday, he will check on Rev. Jones' community Garden in Baltimore and meet members in the Annapolis area. On Sunday, he will preach from the pulpit and in the evening answer questions about the current political situation in Kiev.

### **We also can learn much from the brothers and sisters in Ukraine!**

We can learn how to witness effectively and raise up new members. The Ukrainian church has a very organized and passionate program of outreach. Rev. Illin has expressed that he is eager to learn about how witnessing is done in Maryland and what we have learned in the area of publishing and public relations.

### **Please warmly welcome Rev. Illin**

There will be multiple opportunities to welcome Rev Illin to our community over his 10 day stay. Please approach him, introduce yourself and warmly greet him!